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REEDLEY BUSINESS OWNER INDICTED ON FINANCIAL CHARGES

FRESNO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott and Roger L. Wirth, Special Agent in Charge of IRS Criminal Investigation, announced today that ABDEL JABBAR DAMEN JABER, 57, owner of Shop Kwik Market, 1604 G Street, Reedley, California, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Fresno on 50 counts of failing to file Currency Transaction Reports (CTR) required under federal law for checks cashed at his business in amounts over \$10,000.

The case was investigated by Criminal Investigation of the Internal Revenue Service.

According to the indictment, Shop Kwik Market was a money service business under federal law, and was obligated to complete and file a CTR for each transaction over \$10,000 with the Department of Treasury. A CTR records the name, address and social security number or taxpayer identification number of the person conducting the transaction. It is a federal crime to cause or attempt to cause an entity such as Shop Kwik Market to fail to file a CTR.

Under Title 31 of the Bank Secrecy Act, all financial institutions and money service businesses are required to file a Currency Transaction Report (CTR) on any cash transaction involving more than \$10,000 in a single day. According to Roger L. Wirth, Special Agent in Charge of IRS Criminal Investigation, "These reports provide a valuable resource to the federal government in combating tax evasion, money laundering and tracing the proceeds of illicit criminal activity. People who thwart the system by purposely failing to file CTR's are committing a felony, and IRS CI will aggressively investigate and pursue criminal prosecution of those who violate these laws."

The indictment alleges that between May 2005 and March 2006, Shop Kwik Market cashed checks in excess of \$10,000 at least 50 times for a total of over \$1.6 million without completing CTR's.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Mark E. Cullers, who is prosecuting the case, JABER faces up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 if convicted.

The charges in the indictment are only allegations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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